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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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1. On 8-9 September 1950, a conference of HVA chiefs, presided over by General Inspelteur Heinz Hoffmann, was held at HVA Headquarters. During the meeting Chefinspekteur Rudolf Doelling noted that it had come to his attention that in many instances the Bereitschaft chiefs had failed to invite the SED Party Secretary to important meetings held in the Objekte. Doelling said that in the future the Bereitschaft chiefs would invite the unit Party secretary to every important meeting, and, conversely, the Party secretary would invite his Bereitschaft chief to all SED meetings held in the Bereitschaft. This invitation must be extended whether or not the Bereitschaft leader is a member of the SED. Hoffmann then stated that visitors would no longer be permitted to visit the individual Objekte. In line with this announced policy, Hoffmann added that he was considering the feasibility of recruiting builders and laborers for the Volkspolizei, thereby eliminating the necessity of bringing civilian repair teams into the Objekte.
2. It is reported that a new Abteilung, to be designated Zentrale Einkaufsgesellschaft (Central Purchasing Agency), is to be created within Hauptabteilung Versorgung (Supply Division). In the past, each Hauptabteilung had its own purchasing department (Einkaufsstelle) which made outside purchases for the Hauptabteilung. This system, however, led to accounting complications and, in many instances, imprudent expenditures from the small sum of West marks allocated to the HVA. The Central Purchasing Agency will exercise a tighter control over expenditures. One other change in Hauptabteilung Versorgung is the appointment of Inspelteur (Horst?) Pressler as chief, Abteilung Bau (Construction Department).
3. HVA candidates selected to attend an instruction course with a Soviet armored unit at Bohnitzsch near Leissen will be forced to wait at least another month before beginning the course. This delay has occurred because, while the Soviets and the HVA have been haggling over administrative details, Lt. Col. Krifsov has arranged for two 14-day courses by dealing directly with the Russian unit at Bohnitzsch. Fifty Volkspolizei from Priemerwald will attend each course, the first having already begun.

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4. During the week ending 16 September 1950, 50 Simson motorcycles were delivered to the HVA, bringing the total of Simsons to 75. Training in the "C" Objekte has been affected by the severe shortage of gasoline throughout the DDR. Diesel oil is still available, however, and training on HERBERT I (T34) has not been interrupted, although no gas is obtainable for the HERBERT II (SU 76) and III (Soviet scout car). A small reserve has made possible limited instruction on HERBERT III, but training on HERBERT II has temporarily stopped. Chefinspekteur Hans von Weech notified Erwin Kerber of the Ministry of Supply on 6 September 1950 of the necessity for the HVA to put in a special bid for gasoline. Kerber, however, replied that the shortage is general and acute but that it is purely temporary.
  5. On 15 September 1950, Chefinspekteur Heinrich Heitsch instructed the chief of Abteilung Kraftfahrwesen to see that Chefinspekteur Hermann Rentsch's private car, which is garaged in the HVA during Rentsch's absence in Moscow, is over-hauled and made ready for the road within the next few days.
  6. On 8 September 1950, an Intendantur conference was held under the direction of Chefinspekteur von Weech to discuss the problem of shortages within the Bereitschaften. In attendance at the meeting were representatives of Abteilung Versorgung and the quartermaster (Intendant) of each Objekt. General Inspekteur Hoffmann spent one hour at the discussions. The following complaints were made by the quartermasters of the individual Objekte:
    - a. Building materials: The following articles were listed as being practically unobtainable: Cement, mortar, iron, nails (absolutely unobtainable), cable, electrical equipment, boilers. In addition, more barracks were urgently needed.
    - b. Furniture and Fittings: Cupboards, wardrobes, dishes, plates, knives, forks, spoons and mugs were insufficient.
    - c. Clothing: Few police effectives had more than one uniform shirt, and the regulation issue of three shirts per man could not be made. In addition, another 10-15,000 overcoats were needed. There were insufficient uniforms for the increasing number of police women. Uniform material was poor. A suggestion that uniforms be made of pure wool was turned down on the grounds that pure wool is for export only.
    - d. Food: Potatoes were scarce, but rations were generally adequate, and there were few complaints. In answer to an appeal for canteens, Inspekteur Pressler, chief of Abteilung Bau, said that he intended to establish HO shops near each unit, but not within the unit compound.
    - e. Transport: A general appeal was made for more and better transport, with emphasis being placed on acute shortages of gasoline, spare parts and acid. Many vehicles were deadlined because acid was almost unobtainable.
- Von Weech was unable to offer solutions for all these complaints. He urged economy and improvisation wherever possible, pointing out that, since metal was not available, gutters were to be constructed from wood. With regard to the lack of wardrobes, he stated that the HVA did not intend to supply every policeman with a wardrobe, and, in any case, no wardrobes were to be kept in the barracks rooms, but in a separate room under supervision.
7. Final examinations will be held in all Objekte on 12 and 13 October 1950, covering the present phase of the training program. In the meantime members of Hauptabteilung Inspektion are increasing the number of their visits to the Objekte. General Inspekteur Hoffmann has stated that one or more groups of HVA Abteilung chiefs will also inspect all Objekte before the date of the examinations.
  8. The ordnance instruction course at Dobrilugk began on 18 September 1950 and is scheduled to end on 25 December 1950.

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9. Oberbaurat Weiss has been sent to Hochheim, near Erfurt, to prepare a new Objekt.
10. The interpreters' course at the Leipzig VP School began on 10 September 1950.
11. The 8th Brandenburg Bereitschaft (Treuenbrietzen-Seltenhof) is to be dispersed or transferred to another location not yet announced.
12. The 9th and 10th Brandenburg Bereitschaften (Hoehenstuecken) have now for the first time received Soviet liaison officers.
13. Inspekteur Bruno Kolitsch, chief of the Priemerwald VP School, and his Polit/Kultur chief, Kommandeur Hans Beckmann, were ordered to the HVA on 18 September 1950. Chefinspekteur Fritz Koehn and Inspektore Thomas Mrochen and Erwin Engelbrecht believed this resulted from a complaint by Beckmann that Kolitsch, who is not a member of the SED, was uncooperative.
14. Within the organizational structure of the HVA, Stab/Op (Operations Staff) no longer exists, only Stab/Org. (Organization Staff) remaining. Chefinspekteur Heitsch is still in charge with Inspekteur Engelbrecht as his deputy.
15. The HVA budget is now being prepared. It must be submitted to Heinrich Rau, Minister for Planning, by 15 October 1950.
16. Beginning on 18 September 1950, the staff of the HVA will attend a course of instruction each Monday. The training will include two hours of political instruction, two hours technical and one hour of sport each week.

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